GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2753
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2005
AGRICULTURE UNDER INCOME TAX NET
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring the agriculture under the Income Tax net and wind up the system of Minimum Support Price (MSP);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government to improve the condition of the small and medium level agricultural farmers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To improve the condition of the farmers, including small and medium farmers, Government have taken a number of measures relating to irrigation, credit and other inputs and insurance of crops against production loss due to natural calamities. The Government provides assistance to farmers for purchase of seed, plant protection chemicals and equipments, etc. Under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), small and marginal farmers are entitled to a subsidy of 50% of the premium, which is shared on 50:50 basis by the Central and State Governments.